

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Jc879 U.S. PTO  
10/082204  
02/26/02



In re Patent Application of:

Yuki YAMAMOTO

Application No.:

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: February 26, 2002

Examiner: Unassigned

For: METHOD FOR PROVIDING AREA CHAT ROOMS, METHOD FOR PROCESSING AREA CHATS ON TERMINAL SIDE, COMPUTER-READABLE MEDIUM FOR RECORDING PROCESSING PROGRAM TO PROVIDE AREA CHAT ROOMS, APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING AREA CHAT ROOMS, AND TERMINAL-SIDE APPARATUS FOR USE IN A SYSTEM TO PROVIDE AREA CHAT ROOMS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:
  - 1a.  Form PTO-1449.
  - 1b.  Copies of IDS citations.
  - 1c.  An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
  - 1d.  English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
  - 1e.  Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
2.  In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is  

(Check appropriate Items 2a, 2b, 2c and/or 2d)

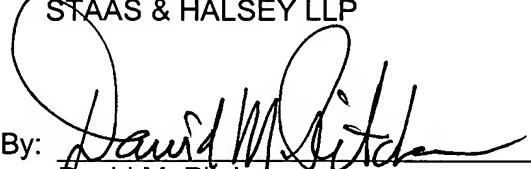
  - 2a.  satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed "English-language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of Relevance, pp. 600-100 to 600-101, Rev. 1, Feb. 2000.)
  - 2b.  set forth in the application.

- 2c.  satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.
- 2d.  enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.
3. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.  
1619.1018APPLICATION NO.  
10/082244FIRST NAMED INVENTOR  
Yuki YAMAMOTOFILING DATE  
February 26, 2002GROUP ART UNIT  
Unassigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES      NO
	AG	2000-167233	06/20/00	Japan			abstract
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						

## OTHER REFERENCES (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

	AM	
	AN	
	AO	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.